

Message Text

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FOR NSC:HUBERMAN
DOD/OSD:SLOCOMB
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TSPA, UN
SUBJECT: UN OUTER SPACE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SUBCOMM-
ITTEE (S&TSC): CONCLUSION OF DEBATE ON COSMOS 954.

1. SUMMARY: INTENSIVE EFFORTS OF WORKING GROUP MARCH 1
SUCCEEDED IN PRODUCING AGREED LANGUAGE ON QUOTE CONCLU-
SIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS UNQUOTE ON COSMOS 954 TO BE IN-
CLUDED IN S&TSC FINAL REPORT. SUBCOMMITTEE APPROVED FI-
NAL REPORT ON FIFTEENTH SESSION IN ITS ENTIRETY DURING
FINAL MEETING MARCH 2. CLOSING STATEMENTS ON COSMOS 954
BY JAPAN, CANADA, SWEDEN AND US STRESSED NEED TO ESTABLISH
WORKING GROUP ON MULTINATIONAL REGULATORY REGIME CONCERN-
ING USES OF NUCLEAR POWER SOURCES IN OUTER SPACE. END
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SUMMARY.

2. MINIWORING GROUP CONSISTING OF CANADA (EDWARDS), USSR
(KOLOSOV), AUSTRALIA (HOLZER), AND THE SECRETARIAT (PEREK)
MET THROUGHOUT THE DAY MARCH 1 TO DEVELOP LANGUAGE FOR
QUOTE CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS UNQUOTE OF SECTION
OF FINAL REPORT DEALING WITH QUOTE QUESTIONS RELATING TO

THE USE OF NUCLEAR POWERS SOURCES IN OUTER SPACE UNQUOTE. SUBCOMMITTEE MET AS WORKING GROUP DURING AFTERNOON TO REVIEW DRAFT OF THAT SECTION AND AGREED TO REVISED OUTLINE WITH APPROPRIATE PARAS TO BE PREPARED BY INDIVIDUAL DELEGATIONS SETTING FORTH VARIOUS SPECIFIC VIEWS EXPRESSED DURING THE COURSE OF THE DEBATE. THREE PARAS ON QUOTE CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS UNQUOTE WERE ACCEPTED AD REFERENDUM AS PREPARED BY MINI-GROUP (TEXT AS REPORTED DOYLE-MACUK TELCON).

3. FOLLOWING ADOPTION OF THE OTHER SECTIONS OF FINAL REPORT MARCH 2 A.M., SUBCOMMITTEE DEBATED COSMOS 954 SECTION AT LENGTH, WITH NUMEROUS AMENDMENTS SUGGESTED BY VARIOUS DELEGATIONS. THREAT OF IMPASSE AROSE LATE IN THE AFTERNOON WHEN SOVIETS PROPOSED AMENDING CANADIAN PARA, TO INCLUDE SELF-SERVING LANGUAGE RECALLING USSR'S IMMEDIATE OFFER OF ASSISTANCE. CANADA (BARTON) OBJECTED STRONGLY BUT WITH ASSISTANCE OF SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, COMPROMISE WAS REACHED DURING RECESS, CLEARING THE WAY FOR ADOPTION OF FINAL REPORT.

4. BODY OF COSMOS 954 SECTION CONTAINS PARAS SETTING FORTH THE SUBSTANTIVE POSITIONS EXPRESSED BY DELEGATIONS THROUGHOUT THE SESSION. REPORT REFLECTS THE PREPONDERANT VIEW SUPPORTING THE CANADIAN PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AD HOC WORKING GROUP TO CONSIDER THE TECHNICAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CAL ASPECTS OF THE USE OF NUCLEAR POWERS SOURCES IN OUTER SPACE, AND TO PREPARE RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO POSSIBILITY OF DEVELOPING MULTILATERAL REGIME OF EFFECTIVE STANDARDS, SAFEGUARDS AND LIMITATIONS. SECTION INCLUDES PRACTICALLY FULL TEXT OF CANADIAN WORKING PAPER (A/AC.105/C.1/L.103).

5. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS PORTION PREPARED BY MINI-GROUP WAS ADOPTED AS CLEARED BY DEPARTMENT (STATE 054092) WITH ONE MINOR EDITORIAL CHANGE. TEXT FOLLOWS.

6. BEGIN TEXT. QUOTE BECAUSE OF THE WIDELY DIVERGENT VIEWS ON STEPS TO BE TAKEN, WHICH WERE EXPRESSED IN CONSIDERABLE DEBATE, AND DESPITE THE VIEWS OF MOST DELEGATIONS FAVORING THE CREATION OF A TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP, IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE AT THIS STAGE TO REACH A CONSENSUS ON THIS POINT.

7. QUOTE IN VIEW OF THE FOREGOING AND IN ORDER TO CONTINUE TO DEAL WITH THE QUESTION IN AN ORDERLY AND CONSTRUCTIVE MANNER, THE SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE, AT ITS TWENTY-FIRST SESSION, PURSUE THE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON

QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE USES OF NUCLEAR POWER SOURCES IN OUTER SPACE, POSSIBLY UNDER A SEPARATE AGENDA ITEM, WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS ALREADY INCLUDED IN ITS AGENDA. THE SUB-COMMITTEE FURTHER RECOMMENDED THAT, IN DOING SO, THE COMMITTEE CONSIDER THE MATTER WITH A VIEW TO DETERMINING THE ROLE THE COMMITTEE AND ITS TWO SUB-COMMITTEES COULD PLAY IN THIS REGARD, AS WELL AS THE PROCEDURES AND MECHANISMS MOST APPROPRIATE FOR CARRYING OUT SUCH A ROLE, INCLUDING THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS.

8. QUOTE TO FACILITATE THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE, INFOR-

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MATION RELEVANT TO QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE USES OF NUCLEAR POWER SOURCES IN OUTER SPACE MIGHT BE PROVIDED TO THE SECRETARIAT BY STATES, AS WELL AS BY APPROPRIATE UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZATIONS. THE COMPILATION OF SUCH INFORMATION RECEIVED BY THE SECRETARIAT BEFORE 30 APRIL 1978 SHOULD BE PRESENTED TO THE TWENTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE. END QUOTE. END TEXT.

9. FOLLOWING ADOPTION OF FINAL REPORT, JAPANESE DEL (KATO) DELIVERED CLOSING STATEMENT UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM TOKYO.

HE CALLED ATTENTION OF SUBCOMMITTEE TO TWO RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEB. 28 AND HOUSE OF COUNCILLORS MARCH 1 (REF TOKYO 3517), WHICH ASSERT THAT THE COSMOS INCIDENT GREATLY SHOCKED THE PEOPLE OF JAPAN AND UNDERScoreD THE NEED FOR MEASURES TO PROTECT MANKIND FROM THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINATION, AS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WELL AS TO PREVENT THE FURTHER EXTENSION OF MILITARY USES OF OUTER SPACE. RESOLUTIONS INSTRUCT GOJ TO SEEK MULTI-NATIONAL REGIME OF STRICT REGULATORY MEASURES, INCLUDING CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE PROHIBITION AGAINST FURTHER LAUNCHINGS OF NUCLEAR POWERED SATELLITES. GOJ ALSO REQUIRED TO CALL UPON OTHER GOVERNMENTS TO MAKE AVAILABLE ALL RELEVANT INFORMATION CONCERNING SUCH SATELLITES, TO TAKE STEPS TO STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN THIS AREA, AND TO EXPEDITE PREPARATIONS FOR RATIFICATION OF EXISTING OUTER SPACE AGREEMENTS. KATO EMPHASIZED DISAPPOINTMENT OF JAPANESE DEL THAT S&TSC WAS NOT ABLE TO TAKE ACTION ALONG THESE LINES AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE STEPS WOULD BE TAKEN AT FORTHCOMING LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE (LSC) AND OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE (OSC) MEETINGS, INCLUDING ESTABLISHMENT OF AD HOC WORKING GROUP.

10. CANADA (AMB. BARTON) SAID HIS DEL HAD COME TO S&TSC TO SEEK QUOTE IMMEDIATE, SPECIFIC AND POSITIVE ACTION UNQUOTE AND WAS GREATLY DISAPPOINTED WITH RESULTS OF MEETING, WHICH WOULD NOT BE FAVORABLY RECEIVED BY CANADIAN PEOPLE. CANADA WOULD UNDERTAKE A SIMILAR INITIATIVE TO ESTABLISH WORKING GROUP AT LSC AND OSC AND, IF NECESSARY, GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN THE FALL.

11. SWEDISH REP (BERG) ASSOCIATED HIS DELEGATION WITH THE JAPANESE PROPOSALS AND VOICED QUOTE SOME DISAPPOINTMENT UNQUOTE THAT SUBCOMMITTEE HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO TAKE THE ACTION THE PUBLIC EXPECTS. DEPLORING THE S&TSC'S FAILURE EVEN TO DECIDE IN PRINCIPLE TO ESTABLISH A WORKING GROUP, HE SAID ISSUE WOULD BE RAISED IN LSC AND WAS HOPEFUL OSC WOULD MAKE NECESSARY DECISION IN JUNE. RECALLED SWEDISH PROPOSAL IN GENERAL DEBATE FOR MORATORIUM ON USE OF NUCLEAR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CLEAR REACTORS IN EARTH ORBIT AND AGAIN STRESSED NEED FOR RULES AND PROCEDURES ENSURING APPROPRIATE NOTIFICATION TO OTHER STATES.

12. US (DOYLE) NOTED THAT THE SESSION HAD BEEN A TIME OF TESTING FOR THE SUBCOMMITTEE. SAID US SHARES THE DISAPPOINTMENT EXPRESSED BY OTHER DELS THAT DECISIVE ACTION HAD NOT BEEN TAKEN BUT BELIEVES THAT OSC CANNOT FAIL TO TAKE SUCH ACTION BUILDING ON THE WORK BEGUN AT THIS SESSION AND MOVING PROMPTLY TO DEVELOP A RESPONSIBLE INTERNATIONAL REGIME TO GOVERN THE USE OF NUCLEAR POWER SOURCES IN OUTER SPACE. YOUNG

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